Application No. 10/698,147 Amendment Dated 7 March 2005 Reply to Office Action of 7 December 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

31 <u>1</u>. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for transporting and filling freight containers, each of the containers having an opening therein, the apparatus comprising:

a chassis supported by ground engaging transport elements;

a hopper having an open upper end and a lower outlet;

a conveyor having proximal and distal ends, the conveyor disposed beneath the hopper outlet for receiving material from the hopper, the conveyor moving material away from the hopper outlet to the distal end;

a container chassis supporting a removable freight container, the freight container having an opening so as to receive material that is to be loaded by the conveyor into the container; and

the chassis including a hitch to couple the chassis to the a container chassis supporting a removable freight container having an opening so as to receive material that is to be loaded by the conveyor into the container.

- 32 2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 31 1 wherein the hitch is a fifth wheel hitch.
- 33 <u>3</u>. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 34 <u>1</u> wherein the conveyor is operable at a speed to throw the material through the opening and into the <u>an</u> interior of the container, the material following an arcuate path as a function of the conveyor angle and speed so as to reach the <u>an</u> opposite end of the container whereby the container can be substantially filled.
- 34 <u>4</u>. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined by claim <u>33 3</u> wherein the conveyor has a belt operating at a speed between 1700 and 2300 feet per minute.
- 35 $\underline{5}$. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 33 $\underline{3}$ wherein the conveyor is inclined at about a 15 degree angle.

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36 $\underline{6}$. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as defined by claim 35 $\underline{5}$ wherein the conveyor has a belt operating at a speed of about 2200 feet per minute.